

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 448**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Matthews**

February 14, 2003

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An act to amend Section 42239.1 of the Education Code, relating to intensive reading programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 448, as introduced, Matthews. Intensive reading programs: reimbursement.

Existing law authorizes a school district that maintains any of kindergarten or grades 1 to 4, inclusive, to operate a program that provides multiple, intensive reading opportunities for pupils in any one or combination of kindergarten and grades 1 to 4, inclusive. Existing law further makes each school district eligible for reimbursements for hours of pupil attendance claimed for intensive reading programs, pursuant to prescribed calculations.

This bill would authorize a school district to elect to receive that reimbursement as a block grant, as specified, to be used for specified purposes, including, but not limited to, providing intensive reading intervention services to children up to 6 months prior to their enrollment in kindergarten.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 42239.1 of the Education Code is  
2 amended to read:

1 42239.1. (a) For ~~the 1999–2000 fiscal year and~~ each fiscal  
2 year ~~thereafter, each~~ a school district ~~shall be~~ is eligible for  
3 reimbursement for hours of pupil attendance claimed for intensive  
4 reading programs offered pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with  
5 Section 53025) of Chapter 16 of Part 28 ~~of the Education Code~~ in  
6 an amount up to 10 percent of the district's total enrollment in  
7 kindergarten and grades 1 to 4, inclusive, for the prior fiscal year  
8 multiplied by 120 hours, multiplied by the hourly rate for the  
9 current fiscal year determined pursuant to subdivision (c) of  
10 Section 42239. This amount shall be provided in addition to  
11 amounts claimed pursuant to Sections 37252, 37252.2, ~~37252.5,~~  
12 ~~35252.6,~~ 37252.8, and 37253.

13 (b) When expending funds received pursuant to this section a  
14 school district shall give first priority for the purpose specified in  
15 paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 53027.

16 (c) (1) *Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a school district may*  
17 *elect to receive funding pursuant to this section as a block grant*  
18 *in an amount equal to the amount received by the school district*  
19 *pursuant to this section during the 2002–03 fiscal year, increased*  
20 *by any cost-of-living adjustments or enrollment adjustments made*  
21 *for the 2003–04 fiscal year or subsequent fiscal years. A school*  
22 *district electing to receive funding pursuant to this subdivision*  
23 *shall use the funds for purposes specified in paragraph (1) of*  
24 *subdivision (c) of Section 53027 or for any of the following*  
25 *purposes:*

26 (A) *To utilize education technology rather than additional staff*  
27 *to provide supplemental reading instruction to pupils in*  
28 *kindergarten and grades 1 to 4, inclusive.*

29 (B) *To provide intensive reading intervention services to pupils*  
30 *up to six months prior to their enrollment in kindergarten.*

31 (C) *To develop intensive reading instruction programs for*  
32 *pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 4, inclusive.*

33 (2) *The State Board of Education may, pursuant to Article 3*  
34 *(commencing with Section 33050) of Chapter 1 of Part 20, waive*  
35 *any statutory provision or regulation regarding the use of funds*  
36 *apportioned pursuant to this section.*